

## GALLANT FIGHT

DETAILS OF BADEN-POWELL'S LATEST SORTIE FROM MAFEEKING.

British Attempted to Take an Impregnable Fort, but Were Driven Back with Severe Loss.

SEVERAL OFFICERS KILLED

EIGHTEEN SOLDIERS SLAIN AND TWENTY-FOUR MEN WOUNDED.

Boers Accused by a Correspondent of Using Explosive Bullets During the Engagement.

AN EYEWITNESS'S ACCOUNT

GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF THE BRAVE, BUT FUTILE, DASH.

Firing at Lady Smith and Colenso, but No General Battle—Reinforcements for General French.

LONDON, Jan. 6, 4:50 a. m.—No decisive operation is reported from South Africa this morning. Military activity has been confined to points of subsidiary importance. In the central theater of operations the British, apparently, have secured no substantial gains. The only dispatch of dramatic interest is the narrative of useless gallantry at the sortie from Mafeking, where the stormers threw themselves hopelessly against a strongly defended Boer work.

The War Office has received, through General Forester-Walker, at Cape Town, the following dispatch from Colonel Baden-Powell, dated Mafeking, Dec. 26:

"We attacked one of the enemy's works this morning, endeavoring to push back the cordon northward. Our force consisted of three guns, two squadrons of the Protectorate Regiment, one of the Beuchuanaland Rifles, armored train, etc. The enemy had strengthened their works during the night and doubled the garrison since yesterday's reconnaissance. Nevertheless, our attack was carried out and pressed home with the greatest possible gallantry and steadiness under a very hot fire. But all efforts to gain the interior by escalade failed, the fort being practically impregnable. Our attack only withdrew after six of our officers and a large number of men had been hit. Nothing could have exceeded the courage and dash displayed."

"The general situation remains unchanged and the health and spirits of the garrison are very satisfactory. I regret to report the following casualties:

"Killed—Capt. R. J. Vernon, Capt. H. C. Sandford, Lieut. H. C. Paton, eighteen noncommissioned officers and troopers.

"General Forester-Walker points out that while the dispatch gives all the names, it fails to show that six officers were hit.

Lady Georgiana Curzon has received a dispatch from Lady Sarah Wilson, at Mafeking, dated Dec. 25, saying, "Both well, referring to herself and her husband, who had been reported as wounded."

The Daily Mail has the following dispatch from Rensberg, dated Jan. 4: "Some Free Staters sent a petition to President Steyn, asking to return home. He replied that they had crossed the border without permission and as they had no money to pay the damage done they must pay for it with their blood."

A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Frere camp, dated Friday, Jan. 5, says: "There has been firing to-day at Lady Smith and Colenso. A strong cavalry reconnaissance, under Lord Dundonald, proceeded westward this morning toward Springfield, where firing is proceeding. There is a revival of the report that the Boers are short of provisions. General Buller's army is eager for the advance."

The lieutenant, sergeant and five men who were reported missing from Captain Thornycroft's patrol, which found the enemy in some force at the Little Tugela bridge on Jan. 3 when their presence was discovered by the Boer scouts, having been hotly chased, eluded the Boers and returned to Camp Frere.

The restlessness of the Zulus is increasing. Many of them are on the verge of starvation and there have been several instances of looting stores. It is feared the magistrats will not be able to restrain the warriors much longer. It is asserted they are anxious to attack the Boers.

A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Cape Town, dated Jan. 5, quotes Mr. Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the Department of the Interior at Washington, as saying that although his visit to South Africa is entirely for his health he intends to go to Pretoria at no matter what personal inconvenience.

With reference to the Boer reports that Lord Cecil and Lord Charles Bentinck were recently wounded at Mafeking inquiries have been made through the correspondent of the Associated Press at Pretoria, with the result that it has been ascertained that neither took part in the sortie and Lord Bentinck's troops were not engaged.

**BADEN-POWELL'S SORTIE.**

Graphic Story of the British Assault on a Boer Fort.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The Times publishes the following dispatch from Mafeking, dated Dec. 26: "At dawn to-day Colonel Baden-Powell organized an unsuccessful attack on a strong position of the enemy at Gametree, two miles from Mafeking, from which the Boers have been maintaining a desultory but annoying shell and rifle fire for several weeks. The railway has recently been reconstructed between the town and Gametree, where the Boers had destroyed it, the final repairs being made in preparation for the sortie."

"During the night the armored train, with Maxim and Hotchkiss guns, under Captain Williams, and troops, took up positions for attack from two sides. Capt. Lord Charles Bentinck and a squadron were in reserve upon the left, while the extreme left wing was occupied by artiller-

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BERLIN, Jan. 5.—The seizure of the Bundesrath remains the dominant topic of the German press. Influential papers like the Berliner Tageblatt, Cologne Volks Zeitung, Berliner Neueste Nachrichten, Hamburger Correspondenz and the semi-official Berliner Post strongly hint at the possibility of Germany forming an anti-British coalition with Russia and France. The anti-British feeling is clearly growing. A series of anti-British demonstrations in various cities is being organized by the Pan-German League.

A prominent official of the German Foreign Office who was interviewed this evening by the correspondent of the Associated Press said that Great Britain had not yet answered Germany's request for an explanation of the seizure, but that the reply was expected in the course of a few days. The Foreign Office, according to this official, has not yet concluded that Great Britain is trying to ride roughshod over Germany.

The correspondent asked what position Germany takes regarding England's right to search German ships on the high seas. The official answered that nothing could be divulged at this stage of the case, but he pointed out that the Bundesrath was sailing for a Portuguese port. On being asked what Germany would do should it turn out that the Bundesrath was carrying contraband, he gave a noncommittal reply, but conveyed the impression that such a discovery would seriously damage Germany's case.

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Referring to the rumor that the Swiss commission had decided to award damages to Great Britain in the Delagoa bay arbitration, the Foreign Office official intimated that such a decision might not mean that England would secure Delagoa bay, inasmuch as France might advance to Portugal the money to pay the award, and thus England might be shut off with no choice but to accept the situation.

The Hanover Courier, confirming earlier reports regarding the shipment of arms and ammunition from Germany, asserts that German officials have been sent to the Transvaal since the outbreak of the war. It says: "We know from a trustworthy source that 40,000 German rifles of the new types and best construction have arrived at Pretoria in good condition. They reached Lourenço Marques by way of China, having been deceptively packed and declared on the manifest as furniture, and are being transported to the interior by the railway."

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**A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.**

Views of Prof. Woolsey on Great Britain's Action.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 5.—Prof. Theo. S. Woolsey, of the chair of international law at Yale University, to-day, dis-

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AMERICAN PRISONERS RESCUED FROM FILIPINO INSURGENTS.

Colonels Hare and Howse Successful in Their Mission to Northwestern Portion of Luzon.

HAVE RETURNED TO VIGAN

WITH LIEUT. GILMORE AND THE OTHER NAVAL CAPTIVES.

Names of Those Who Are Supposed to Have Been Released and List of the Men Who Were Killed.

PRATISE FROM GENERAL OTIS

WORK OF COLS. HARE AND HOWSE DESCRIBED AS REMARKABLE.

Sibutu Island Seized by a United States Naval Force and the Stars and Stripes Raised on a Pole.

MANILA, Jan. 5.—Colonel Luther R. Hare, of the Thirty-third Infantry, and Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Howse, of the Thirty-fourth Infantry, with all the American prisoners, including Lieutenant Gilmore, have arrived at Vigan, province of South Ilocos.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—After a silence of several days General Otis is able to notify the War Department of the complete success of the military operations in northwestern Luzon, the main object of which was the rescue of the American prisoners which the insurgents took with them in their flight. Although General Otis does not specify Lieutenant Gilmore, U. S. N., by name, the wording of his message is taken to mean that that officer was among the list of rescued prisoners. General Otis's message follows:

"Manila, P. I., Jan. 5.—Colonels Hare and Howse just arrived at Vigan, in northwestern Luzon, with all the American prisoners. Their successful pursuit was a remarkable achievement. Generals Schwan and Wheaton, now with separate columns, are in Cavite province. Affairs in Luzon, north of Manila, greatly improved. The rebels have been driven back, even in the annuals of company promotion and the late Harold Frederic, in his novel, 'In the Market Place,' took the India rubber concern as the basis of his story."

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